

**Cyclists complete lap of county for charity**

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**Christmas comes early for 27 families**

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7 DAY 19 CLIP

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Thursday December 15 | Wednesday December 16, 2014

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# CAMERON 'HAPPY' TO SEE FRACKING ON HIS DOORSTEP

## 'All I Want For Christmas Is You'



ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS, the Prime Minister's family were taking up the mantle of a million YouTube hits.

And in Mr. Cameron's case, it was a Christmas card taken from his own collection, recorded a Christmas message for his family and the public.

It was a Christmas card taken from his own collection, recorded a Christmas message for his family and the public.

**By Adam Pflum**  
adp@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

David Cameron's Christmas card was a far cry from the usual "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Christmas" wishes. Instead, it was a message that read: "All I want for Christmas is you."

The Prime Minister made his message clear in the House of Commons last Tuesday, December 16, when he was being asked by a Member of Parliament (MP) to send a Christmas card to the nation's children.

Mr. Cameron said he was "happy" to do so, but he was not sure if it was "the right time" to do so. He said he was "happy" to do so, but he was not sure if it was "the right time" to do so.

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# £101m promise for council homes

By Jack Johnson  
[jack.johnson@guardian.co.uk](mailto:jack.johnson@guardian.co.uk)

OXFORD City Council has pledged to spend up to £101m on building council housing over the next five years. The money is in part of the council's planning resolution under draft proposals for the 2010 budget.

It also includes an additional £10m in housing revenue over 10 years with 145 new houses built and 100 new flats built.

However, the city council's decision is based on a 1 per cent increase in council tax.

Oxford is home to a large number of council homes, including the city's largest council housing estate, the 1,000 homes in the city centre.

The city council's decision is based on a 1 per cent increase in council tax. The city council's decision is based on a 1 per cent increase in council tax.

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Oxford's skyline and historic city center. Oxford City Council, Ed. Jones, who has been a council member since 2001.

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## Committee to scrutinise pool decision

OXFORD City Council's decision to build a new swimming pool has been put under scrutiny by a committee.

The committee will be asked to scrutinise the decision to build a new swimming pool.

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## Oxford ranked first for research

OXFORD University has been ranked first in the UK for the quality of its research, according to a new report from the Research Excellence Framework.

The report, which is the first of its kind, shows that Oxford is the best university in the UK for research.

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# Trust 'sorry' after six wrong cancer verdicts

OXFORD University Hospitals NHS Trust has apologised after six women were diagnosed with breast cancer following a review of surveillance underfunding a particular doctor.

The Trust launched an assessment in August to review the care of 121 women to check the extent of the underfunding.

Results of the assessment published last week showed that the underfunding had led to six women being incorrectly diagnosed with breast cancer.

By Adam Pinn

oxford@oxfordmail.co.uk

where it was found that six women only diagnosed with breast cancer did actually have the disease. Sixteen doctors Dr Tony Barrett said: "Our priority had been to ensure that we were giving up at least six clear women and their families."

"We will continue to improve the quality of our care for all our

women, and we are extremely sorry that as part of our routine review, six women have received a diagnosis of breast cancer."

"All the women have undergone further treatment and surveillance, and we will continue to ensure that we are giving every woman the best care possible and their families."

"Women who are treated for breast cancer need to feel that they are in the best hands for their care."

However, some women do develop breast cancer in the years in between, and this can happen a review is conducted in one of the cancer care with hindsight. He pointed up to the previous screening stages.

The latest review was conducted by a team of six women who had been assessed by the same radiologist. Dr Barrett added: "We recognise the anxiety that this

review will cause to women in Oxfordshire who normally wait up to three years to receive breast mammograms."

However, it would be to ensure women that there are no women who have been incorrectly diagnosed with breast cancer following the review.

If it is important for women to attend their routine mammograms, appointments should be made and they can be confident about the service they receive.

## News Briefs

### Bus stop flasher

OXFORD A man in his late 40s exposed himself to a woman waiting at the bus stop on December 22.

A woman in her late 40s approached the 40-year-old man who was at the bus stop exposed himself, and was told to leave the bus stop.

It is likely, says, wearing dark trousers and a dark jacket, which made him look like a flasher, and was told to leave the bus stop.

Call 01865 200000.

### Harvester pub

MILTON Harrier for a 100-year-old pub at 10000 Gable Road, Oxford, has been converted into a pub.

The pub is a 100-year-old building, which was converted into a pub. The pub is a 100-year-old building, which was converted into a pub.

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### Burglary appeal

BOTCH GUN. Police are appealing for information for burglaries in Oxford. The burglaries were in Oxford, and the police are appealing for information for burglaries in Oxford.

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# Motorists urged to be safe this Christmas

MOTORISTS are being urged to take care of their driving skills as the festive season approaches.

A two-vehicle collision on the A44 near the Oxford Road in December 14 resulted in a fatality, with a woman being killed and a man being injured.

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and safety. Road safety is a priority for the police, and they are urging motorists to take care of their driving skills as the festive season approaches.

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## County tops recycling league table

**OXFORDSHIRE** is the best county in the country for recycling rates, figures published by the Department for Environment, Energy and Climate Change has revealed.

More than 50 per cent of household waste is sent for recycling in Oxfordshire, the best rate ever higher than the rest of the UK.

It also has the highest amount of waste being sent to landfill at just over 400kg per house hold - 40kg better than the second placed county.

The figures are based on the county council's recycling performance, although the two district councils in Oxfordshire also performed well.

David Thomas Smith, the county council's cabinet member for environment, said: "These figures clearly show that our planning and investment in this area is bearing fruit."

"We would like to thank all the residents who take the time to sort their rubbish. There is more work to be done and calculations take the recycling everything means will help to protect the environment and to build."

# Cyclists complete lap of county for charity

By Adam Pines

adam.pines@oxfordmail.co.uk

A GROUP of cyclists from three districts raised thousands for charity after completing a 100 mile lap of Oxfordshire.

Tenmen riders from the Oxford Triathlon Cycling Club have taken their journey in August before they started the September 11.

They then headed south to Watlington towards Bletchley, Banbury, Clippingham, Lechlade and Farnham before arriving back in Watlington 15 hours later.

And the group have so far collected around £1,700 for the charity Superbus, which is based on a local bus company which is struggling to pay for the treatment of their daughter's Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Adam Watlington, 27, from Watlington, was one of the eight cyclists who managed to complete the entire journey.

He said: "It was not always a great job to finish it by the end."



• Tenmen riders set off from Watlington for the 100 mile ride (picture by Tim Smith)

"One of the things I was told two years ago was diagnosed with cancer behind one of his eyes and he was Superbus who was in hospital going through cancer treatment."

"She is a 10-year-old girl who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and her family is actually out in New Zealand at the moment."

"The thing is, we are not going to let her go to New Zealand at the moment. We are going to let her stay here for the moment."

"The thing is, we are not going to let her go to New Zealand at the moment. We are going to let her stay here for the moment."

## News Briefs

### Top honours

OXFORD Two Abingdon and Watlington College students have been recognised for their work as apprentices at Oxford City Council.

Kathryn Smith and Benjamin Pines were jointly awarded the Apprenticeship prize for outstanding performance in their apprenticeship at the Oxford City Council's Apprenticeship Awards.

Benjamin said: "It is an honour to be recognised for the hard work I have put in and I am proud to share this title with Kathryn."

### Burglary arrest

WATLINGTON A 34-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of breaking into a house in Clippingham at Watlington on December 11.

An iPod and £1,000 in cash was taken from a bedroom at the property which occurred between midnight and 01.00. The man has been released on bail until January 13.

### 1960s fashion

WATLINGTON An exhibition showcasing the progress of fashion in Oxfordshire during the first half of the 20th century began at the Watlington Museum on January 21.

The Keeping Up Appearances exhibition is the latest in a series of exhibitions at the museum which are being held in the building. It is running until April 23.



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## News Bites

### Teens arrested

**REPROBATE** Three boys aged 16 have been arrested and released on bail on suspicion of trying to steal a couple's car on December 10.

Police received a call from a resident in the early hours of the morning, saying four people were in his back garden in an attempt to steal his car. He believed they were trying to steal a motor.

When dawn broke, he made an attempt to start the car. A 17 and 16-year-old were arrested and held until January 11.

### Church repairs

**CHURCH REPAIRS** St John the Baptist church in Kingsley, Little, near Wootton, is set to benefit from a £24,000 grant to make repairs to the roof and timberwork.

The money is from the National Churches Trust. The church has been closed for some time due to damage from the last 10 years of flooding.

### Employment up

**OSDN** The library service has the highest rate of employment in the country, says figures reveal.

Only 27 per cent for jobs in the library service were made as November ending last 10 per cent of the population aged between 16 and 64, a statistic from the House of Commons Library website.

# Student choir transform Mariah's festive classic

By Jack Johnson

[jack.johnson@bristolpost.co.uk](mailto:jack.johnson@bristolpost.co.uk)

**OXFORD** A group of students have made a festive return to the town, their successful mix of Mariah Carey's 'All I Want For Christmas Is You'.

Out of the blue, an all-male choir group made up of Oxford and Oxford Brookes University students became an Oxford attraction in July as they performed the song.

April saw they were taking the song to the streets again, with their cover of Mariah Carey's All I Want For Christmas Is You.

The single has already raised £1.1m for the Oxford-based, but poor charity Helen & Douglas House and the money raised has already allowed 1,000 meals to be donated.

Charlie Baker, 16, who is at the University of Oxford, is a member of the 11 strong group.

He said: "The band started after the Shakers video and decided Christmas would be another good opportunity to make another charity video." "It was pretty obvious that Mariah's 'All I Want For Christmas Is You' would be a popular choice and that's the way it



A Christmas choir performs with the rest of Out of the Blue during the filming of their Christmas charity single, featuring a mix of the Oxford Brookes University choir and the Oxford Brookes University choir.

turned out so well. The video was made for charity.

The Shakers video raised £100,000 for Helen & Douglas House and the charity was set up to help the poor in the Oxford area.

Charlie said: "The video was made for charity and the charity was set up to help the poor in the Oxford area."

The latest video has been filmed at home, university

He added: "I actually didn't know how it would turn out."

"The success of the Shakers video was largely down to the fact that we worked and put it on the Facebook page and it really took off."

One very charitable little boy expressed it as a success.

## Man faces jail on hare hunting offences near Wootton

**A MAN** could face jail next year after pleading guilty to hunting hares in a field near Wootton.

Gary Melrose, 46, of Over, near, pleaded guilty to hunting hares in a field near Wootton on December 11 at Oxford Magistrates Court and will be sentenced next year.

John Herman, 41, of 11, of the field near Wootton, was also found guilty of hunting hares in a field near Wootton on December 11 at Oxford Magistrates Court and will be sentenced next year.

The man was seen by a police helicopter in the field near Wootton in July 2008 and was found with a dog.

Detective Inspector Paul Powell said: "We are very sorry that we have to see this man in court and we are very sorry that we have to see this man in court."

"We are very sorry that we have to see this man in court and we are very sorry that we have to see this man in court."

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The following table shows the number of people who have been convicted of a crime in the United States from 1990 to 2010. The data is presented in millions of people.





## News Briefs

### Racial abuse

**THE OXFORDSHIRE** British Transport Police (BTP) are again able to provide information after a man headed a train at Bicester North yesterday (December 11) was not a racist.

The couple, who are Middle Eastern, boarded the train at Bicester before a passenger boarded shortly before 11.15. One of the men told the pair to move again inside space, but they were unable to do so as the train was crowded.

There was then a further altercation and religiously offensive remarks were made. The man was then taken to the station by a police officer and a woman was taken to the station by a police officer.

Anyone with information is asked to call 01753 on 6144 or 101.

### Work finished

**WITNEY** Roadworks on the A421 Ditchingham Lane to Witney were completed last week.

The road fully reopened to traffic after work started. As part of a £1.5million project, the roadworks on all four parts of the junction were widened, traffic lights upgraded and new crossings installed.

Signal timings will also be checked over the next few weeks to help improve the traffic flow.

# Blow for protestors against Abingdon crossing move

**THE** relocation of an Abingdon pedestrian crossing, that has been the subject of a long-running campaign, has been a blow for protestors against the move.

Plans to move the Abingdon Road crossing away from the double main road, and to the new double main road, were given the go-ahead at the end of a meeting on December 11. It means a second 12 months after the government's planning.

### By Adam Finn

[adam.finn@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk](mailto:adam.finn@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk)

Importers ruled that the crossing was a necessary one to build the bridge on Drayton Road, as an effort to ease traffic congestion.

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Importers warned people are not likely to walk the 100m distance to the crossing.

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Importers warned people are not likely to walk the 100m distance to the crossing.



• The Abingdon Road crossing is a controversial location.

## Christmas comes early for 27 families



• Kelly Shaw with John, Steven and David, and the children.

WITNEY (Shaw) has been a Christmas card for a long time.

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## News Briefs

### Food appeal

**FOODSUD** The East Oxford Community Foundation is asking for donations of food and other items to help the needy. The charity says it will use the money to help the needy.

A collection box for any, per school/club, as well as gifts for children and their parents, has been set up at East Oxford Community Centre.

### Tesco targeted

**ABOVE** Tesco's new store at the Tinsley Estate in Oxford, built on a brownfield site, is set to be one of the most modern in the country.

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### Gift request

**ABOVE** The Oxford Foodbank is asking for gifts to help the needy. The charity says it will use the money to help the needy.

The Foodbank is asking for gifts to help the needy. The charity says it will use the money to help the needy.

Call 01865 211111 for details.

# Oxfordshire signs up to tri-county alliance

By Adrian Flinn

Westchire Information Service

The Oxford County Council has agreed to join a tri-county alliance that will develop their local economy.

Oxfordshire County Council leader, Ian Hargrave, has agreed the agreement with his counterparts from Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire at the Stratford-on-Avon town on December 16.

The agreement is a commitment to work together to develop plans for employment, training and education across the three counties. The alliance is also aiming to create a joint approach to local government to meet the needs of the region.

The Hargrave said: "We are delighted to be part of this alliance. It is a great opportunity for us to work together to develop our local economy and to create jobs for the future."

This will be a commitment to work together to develop plans for employment, training and education across the three counties. The alliance is also aiming to create a joint approach to local government to meet the needs of the region.



• Ian Hargrave (left) signs the document with Northamptonshire leader Martin Telford (right) and Buckinghamshire leader David Smith (center).

County Councils, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire, said: "This new alliance shows our commitment to working together to develop our local economy and to create jobs for the future."

This will be a commitment to work together to develop plans for employment, training and education across the three counties. The alliance is also aiming to create a joint approach to local government to meet the needs of the region.

"We are delighted to be part of this alliance. It is a great opportunity for us to work together to develop our local economy and to create jobs for the future."

This will be a commitment to work together to develop plans for employment, training and education across the three counties. The alliance is also aiming to create a joint approach to local government to meet the needs of the region.

## Police appeal after 67-year-old killed in Burford car accident

**A 67-YEAR-OLD** man was killed in a fatal car accident that happened in Burford last Tuesday morning, December 19.

A grey Volvo and a yellow Audi, in a collision, crashed shortly after 11 am in the A50 Cheltenham Road. The Volvo driver was pronounced dead at the scene while the passenger, a 67-year-old woman, suffered serious injuries and was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

A 67-year-old woman was driving the Audi when she lost control and crashed into the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.

Det. Insp. John Gifford from the West Oxfordshire Police said: "The road was closed while officers attended the car crash and the Volvo was towed to hospital and repaired at a cost of £2,000."

"We are appealing for anyone who saw the Volvo or Audi prior to the collision or who saw the Volvo or Audi to please contact police."

Call the anti-terrorism unit on 01865 211111 for details.

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Tickets are now available from the show website - [www.londonclassiccarshow.co.uk](http://www.londonclassiccarshow.co.uk) - where early bird discounts reduce the cost of the show and entry price from £25 to just £10.

### WIN tickets!

As we mentioned we have a pair of tickets to the show on January 11 and to be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets to the show, the London Classic Car Show 2015 being staged!

**Q: Where is the London Classic Car Show 2015 being staged?**

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# Puzzles

## Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 subgrids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions" or "nines") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

### EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

5		3	7					9
	6				8	2	1	
7			2	4		6		
4	9	6	1	7				
		8				5		
					9	3	4	6
		5		3	2			8
4	8	5					2	
7					1	9		3

	6						4	
		2		1		9		
4			3		7			2
	7	9	8		2	3	1	
			6		3			
	4	8	1		3	6	9	
5			7		5			9
		3		6		5		
8							7	

							6	5	3
				7		2	4		
				3	6			7	
				4	9			2	
1									7
		9				8	6		
	5				4	3			
			8	5			1		
6	1	4							

### This week's solutions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

How to play it:  
Sudoku is a logic puzzle. It consists of a 9x9 grid, which is divided into nine 3x3 subgrids. Each row, column and subgrid must contain the digits 1 through 9. Some of the cells are pre-filled with digits, and the player's task is to fill in the remaining cells. The puzzle is solved when every row, column and subgrid contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

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# What's on in OXFORDSHIRE

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• The cast of *Mother Goose*, made up of (from left to right) Emma Williams, Robert Abbott, Emily Adams, Gillian and Lucina Prouse, arrive to Clipping Harbour. (photo by Rob Melling)

## Mother Goose

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# Local lad makes his mark

**OXFORDSHIRE** musician Andy Robb is set to perform at The Green Lane Pub in South Marston in one of his New Year's Eve shows.

The acoustic, folk and rock artist from Toward village travels all over the country performing in pubs, clubs and theatres whilst also working as a number of local businesses recovery team.

Andy told the Guardian: "I played at The Green Lane in February last year after I played there, my bookings agent called and before I knew it I was again on New Year's Eve."

**By James Richings**

*oxfordmail.co.uk*

"I was really happy with that, so I enjoyed the previous occasion and I thought the bands were great."

The 30-year-old is one of many who are expected as a key when his band would head out with all the other white rock and roll bands.

Then after being given his first gig, he has early in the year he has to be in the band. The Rockers, The Rockers.

Robb Dylan and Jimi Hendrix who he cites as his main influences.

Andy is about to release his first album, 'The Green Lane', which is his second album. Produced with Chris Lee, due to be released in the next few weeks.

"I do lots of gigs because I like it. That's the most important thing to me, I want to get my music heard wherever I possibly can."

"I normally perform in pubs, clubs and theatres to give me a go and that's how it started and I've been doing it since."

The musician, who played for the first time at the Green Lane pub in his first year, has a long and successful career in the music industry.

2013 has been a massive year for me and I have played all over the country, signed in a record label and I'm about to release my second album, he added.

"I want to keep working hard by writing, singing and playing live, so I can be in the front of people and see what happens, so hopefully 2014 will be a great year."

The gig is the start of a new year. Call 01235 777777 for details.

• Andy Robb is on the radio with his guitar at previous gigs.



**New Year's Eve Spectacular**

## The New Dreamers



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Show starts at 8.30pm

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# It's Christmas....!

## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

One thing that we all look forward to as Christmas Day is our well-earned Christmas dinner.

What for you prefer chicken, turkey, goose, duck or a roast, there is nothing better than sitting the festive food in your place.

However, even though you might know what you would like to eat for Christmas dinner, what are you going to have to eat in the period prior to a relaxed Christmas meal in your home? Or even going down town for the festive lunch? Do you think you can be the best of both worlds - a very much needed respite?

There are certainly great reasons to enjoy your Christmas Day, and for you might not be able to visit where you go. We want every one to enjoy their Christmas Day, but for you, it's a great lunch in a night for your place and your comfort. At Christmas, you want to spend your time with the ones that you love and cheer to the noise.



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# Auto Weekly

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motoring newspaper

## All smiles for Ford Transit

THE all-new Ford Transit Custom topped this year's 'What Van?' awards winning 144 of the 150 votes.

Ford celebrated its winning streak at the December 14 awards in Essex with the Transit Custom picking up Best Van of the Year (the Transit Custom) and taking the Light Van category with the new Ranger replacing Pick-up of the Year.

The Ford Fiesta Van was highly commended in its category with the Transit Custom also in the 10th place.

What Van? held its 20th birthday bash. 'Ford's reputation of insight, commercial know-how and a clear the most comprehensive range of high quality vehicles in the marketplace, in terms of value, appeal, drive, support, customer care, technology and efficiency.

"This award reinforced ourselves and our Van of the Year Transit Custom offering."

"This is a massive step forward in the small van segment, increasing our sales even more. Van of the Year winner the Transit Custom."

"The smallest new Transit Custom is also a worthy winner of the Light Van category."

Finally, the small Transit Van is styled to offer fuel efficiency in both

By James Richards

de-fuel and refuelling ranges. The new Ford Transit Custom also gives 10 per cent more load volume than its closest competitors with 7.2m<sup>3</sup> of load behind the middle seat.

It also has a longer load length of four feet, and greater access with through the sliding side door.

The Ford motor and vehicle range will be available from a designated commercial dealer network called Transit Centres.

About 100 are likely to be set across the country next year.

Director of Year of Choice, Ford of Britain, Terry Kayser said: "I am delighted to receive the 'What Van?' Van of the Year award for the Transit Custom – a Ford that is the small van segment."

He continued: "We will be the first fully open to the motor van with Transit Custom will be available."

It will compete with the launch of Ford's specialist commercial vehicle dealerships and service centres.

"Transit Custom will be rolled out over 100 locations across the UK."



Director of Transit Centres, Ford of Britain, Terry Kayser

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# AutoWeekly

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# Making the change from rigger to rugger

FEW have Premiership rugby players more baggage than London Welsh's David Curran. The 32-year-old spent a year working as an oilfield rigger before joining the club in 2011.

From being Curran's coach, London Welsh's head coach, David Curran, has now become a player. The former Wales international is now a rigger, a job that is not as glamorous as it sounds.

"It was tough," he said. "But it was just picking up a few things and it just had to be done at the time. It needed work and my brother got the job as the sign."

Curran made his debut for London Welsh in the first round of the Premiership on Saturday. He was named captain of the year last season but in a tough league, he was not able to play in the first round of the Premiership.

By Jack Johnson  
@jackjohnson1

Northampton Saints on Saturday 20 making a life long out of it. It was a (transferring) time at the start of the season. It was a (transferring) time at the start of the season.

As the Saints head coach, Curran was not without a few things to say. He was not without a few things to say. He was not without a few things to say.

They were also named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league.

It could just give us a slight confidence boost and then we could take the New Year. It could just give us a slight confidence boost and then we could take the New Year.

It could just give us a slight confidence boost and then we could take the New Year. It could just give us a slight confidence boost and then we could take the New Year.



David Curran made his Premiership debut against Northampton Saints on Saturday 20 January by Martin Jones

## Boss Merritt backs Yussuf to maintain scoring form

OXFORD City striker Ad Yussuf will be keeping his scoring form for Christmas and New Year.

The 21-year-old has scored seven goals in his last five games, as the Oxfordshire Strikers head to their first game of the season on Saturday 13th.

Ad is a rising star, he is a rising star, he is a rising star. He is a rising star, he is a rising star. He is a rising star, he is a rising star.

They were also in a list of the best players in the league. They were also in a list of the best players in the league. They were also in a list of the best players in the league.

Merritt's side also has an FA Trophy second round tie at home to Cambridge City. Merritt's side also has an FA Trophy second round tie at home to Cambridge City.

City will be looking to take the game to the next level. City will be looking to take the game to the next level. City will be looking to take the game to the next level.

## Elder positive ahead of London Irish clash

FULLBACK Chris Elder says he believes he will make his London Welsh debut.

He was named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league.

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He was named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league. He was named in the list of the best players in the league.

"We're quite pleased with what we are doing, it is just that they are not looking at it as a bad thing."

"There are a lot of things that we are pleased with but it is trying to convert that into points. We are pleased with but it is trying to convert that into points."



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# 'CUP EXIT SHOULD REFOCUS UNITED'

HEAD coach Michael Appleton says Oxford United's FA Cup exit at the hands of Tottenham leaves him with a job to do to help the team refocus.

After United's defeat to Spurs at the second round replay on December 11, they would have had a third round tie at home to Preston. League club Swindon City was January's first round draw.

But that exit means they can now fully concentrate on their Sky Bet League Two campaign.

United welcome Boreham Wood to the Kassam Stadium on Boxing Day before a long trip to Plymouth on December 18 and a

By Jack Johnson  
jackjohnson@sportsmail.co.uk

home game against Cheltenham Town on January 3.  
Appleton told the club "Some things happen in a season."

"We have got to ensure why we did worse than we really expected to when we have got coming up over the Christmas period that as well."

As for Boreham Wood, Appleton said: "I think they were 17th on the table and suddenly at four in the game."

Appleton, Tottenham United's academy boss, led the club through Alan Pardoe as chairman.

Boreham goals from Kevin Doherty and Alex Power are their only goals before Oxford United set the trap.

Appleton added: "We were disappointed to lose the game."

"I think when the players look back at it, they will certainly be feeling it more."

"There will be a few of them who will probably be disappointed that they didn't take the game by the result of the week, especially right at the pitch."

"In the final third we got into situations where we were not as good as we were in the first half. For a couple of players to score goals and not to be able to follow that."



Oxford United head coach Michael Appleton (picture by Steve Dwyer)

## Oxford United's festive fixtures:

Dec 26 - Shrewsbury (H) Jan 3 - Cheltenham (H)  
Dec 28 - Plymouth (A) Jan 10 - Dagenham (A)



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